

Dear Senators and Representatives:

I am a mother of four healthy and active children whom I have been homeschooling for the last five years. My role as their primary caretaker and educator is one I approach with great responsibility, diligence, and passion. S.B. No.374 is an unjust and inappropriate invasion of my rights as a parent, as well as the rights of my children as citizens of a free nation.

Allowing the Board of Education the right to perform invasive psychological evaluations of my children violates my right as a parent to oversee their care and choose their healthcare providers. Additionally, exposure to this type of evaluation has potentially damaging consequences on my children from which I as a parent have the right to protect them. Furthermore, this bill violates issues of confidentiality as it does not specify who will have access to the results of the questionable evaluations.

If this bill is a reaction to the horrible events of Newtown's school shooting, anyone of sound mind and body would agree that a continued assault on the family, exposure to psychologically damaging evaluations of our children, and governmental control of our medical choices would only perpetuate violence, rather than discourage it.

I am submitting this testimony for the March 8th public hearing regarding this bill.

Sincerely,
Patricia Pavia